

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 03044 240820Z POSS DUPE
ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 L-03 H-01 PA-01
PRS-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06 XMB-02 OPIC-03
SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-07
CEA-01 /112 W

-----013023 250940Z /23

R 240317Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2136
INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

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USADB

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, CE
SUBJECT: SRI LANKA UREA FERTILIZER PROJECT

REF: (A) MANILA 2107, (B) COLOMBO 0611, (C) MANILA 1407,
(D) 77 COLOMBO 5084

FOLLOWING STATEMENT WAS MADE AT FEBRUARY 23 ADB BOARD OF
DIRECTORS MEETING REGARDING SRI LANKA UREA FERTILIZER PROJECT:
QUOTE

1. IN A STATEMENT MADE ON 6 FEBRUARY 1978 CONCERNING THE
UREA FERTILIZER PROJECT IN SRI LANKA, THE BOARD WAS INFORMED
THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED TO CONTINUE WITH THE IMPLE-
MENTATION OF THE UREA FERTILIZER PROJECT, BUT THAT THE BANK
WAS AWAITING FORMAL INTIMATION FROM THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
WHICH IS THE OFFICIAL CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATIONS. WE HAVE
SINCE RECEIVED A COMMUNICATION FROM THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
FORMALLY INTIMATING TO US THAT THE SRI LANKA GOVERNMENT HAS
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DECIDED THAT IT WILL CONTINUE TO PROCEED WITH THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UREA FERTILIZER PROJECT.

2. THE STATEMENT TO THE BOARD ON 6 FEBRUARY 1978 ALSO
MENTIONED THAT THE PROJECT'S EXECUTING AGENCY HAD
INFORMED US THAT KFW, WHICH HAD TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED
DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE PROJECT, HAD RESUMED

DISBURSEMENTS. THIS HAS SINCE BEEN OFFICIALLY COMMUNICATED TO THE BANK BY KFW.

3. THE BANK HAS BEEN ACTING AS THE PROJECT COORDINATOR FOR THE UREA FERTILIZER PROJECT, IN WHOSE FINANCING THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY THROUGH KFW, THE KUWAIT FUND FOR ARAB ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ARE PARTICIPATING. THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND THE MANAGER OF THE BANK'S INDUSTRY DIVISION ASSISTED BY BANK'S TECHNICAL STAFF ARE PRESENTLY ATTENDING A MEETING OF CO-LENDERS FOR THE UREA FERTILIZER PROJECT CONVENED IN COLOMBO. THE CO-LENDERS MEETING WILL DEAL WITH THE PROJECT'S IMPLEMENTATION AND RELATED ISSUES INCLUDING THE LIKELY IMPACT OF RECENT EVENTS THAT WERE REPORTED TO THE BOARD.

4. WE HAVE NOW HEARD FROM THE MISSION IN THE FIELD THAT THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE IN THE SCOPE OF THE PROJECT. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THE GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO GIVE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO THE PROJECT. UNQUOTE.
WESTCOTT

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